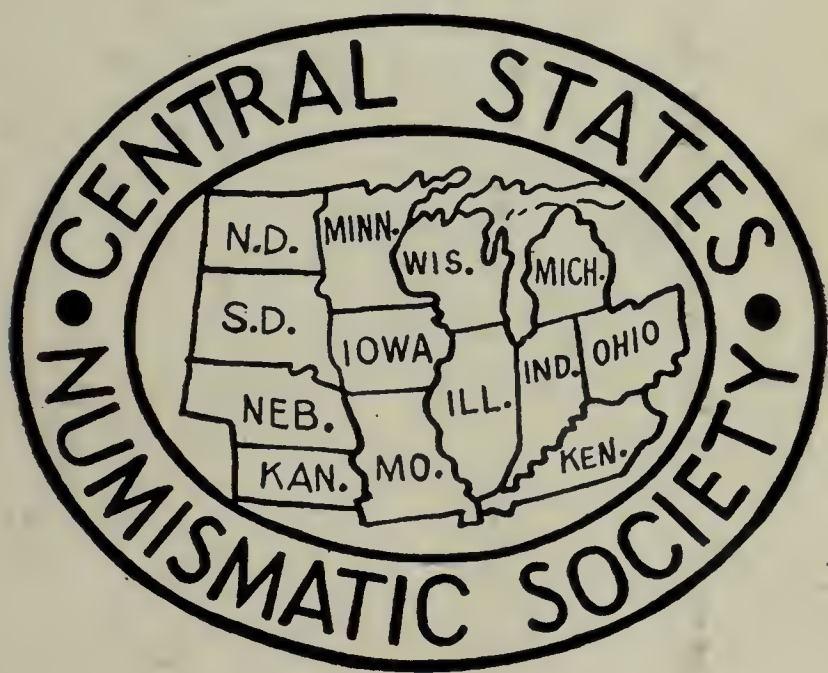


THE CENTINEL

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



Twenty-Sixth Annual Convention

Detroit, Michigan

April 19-21

April, 1968

Volume 15 Number 3

Choice BU Coins in Stock

QUARTERS BU

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	P	D	S		P	D	S
1929	—	55.00	—	1934	10.00	—	65.00
1930	39.50	NM	47.50	1935	8.50	—	—
1932	14.00	—	120.00	1936	7.50	16.50	37.50
1934	12.50	50.00	NM	1937	10.00	55.00	47.50
'34 lite motto	17.50	—	—	1938	30.00	—	NM
1935	10.00	50.00	35.00	1939	10.00	14.00	26.00
1936	7.50	225.00	32.50	1940	8.50	NM	—
1937	8.50	12.50	50.00	1941	7.00	13.00	32.50
1938	42.50	NM	30.00	1942	5.50	13.50	15.00
1939	7.50	10.00	27.50	1943	5.50	10.00	15.00
1940	12.50	42.50	5.50	1944	6.00	6.00	7.75
1941	2.50	5.00	6.50	1945	5.50	6.00	7.00
1942	2.50	3.50	17.50	1946	8.50	12.50	7.75
1943	1.85	3.50	5.00	1947	10.00	7.50	NM
1944	1.25	3.00	2.75	1948	12.50	6.50	NM
1945	1.00	2.75	2.00	1949	29.00	20.00	21.00
1946	1.25	3.25	5.00	1950	16.50	10.50	NM
1947	2.00	2.00	5.50	1951	4.00	21.00	13.50
1948	1.25	1.75	1.75	1952	3.50	2.00	10.50
1949	12.50	3.75	NM	1953	14.00	2.25	7.50
1950	1.50	1.50	3.50	1954	2.00	1.75	3.75
1951	1.00	1.00	6.00	1955	9.50	Bugs Bunny	10.00
1952	1.00	.80	3.00	1956	4.00	NM	NM
1953	2.00	1.00	1.35	1957	3.00	1.50	NM
1954	.75	1.00	1.35	1958	3.25	1.50	NM
1955	1.35	4.00	NM	1959	2.75	1.75	NM
1956	.75	.75	NM	1960	2.00	1.50	NM
1957	.75	.75	NM	1961	1.75	1.75	NM
1958	1.75	.50	NM	1962	1.75	1.25	NM
1959 PD thru 1964 PD			.50	1963	1.25	1.25	NM
				1964	1.25	1.25	NM

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FINAL PLANS MADE FOR DETROIT CONVENTION

Final plans have been made for the Twenty-sixth annual convention of the Central States Numismatic Society. The convention will be held April 19-21 at the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel in downtown Detroit, Michigan. The host club, the Detroit Coin Club, has named Dan Parker and Ben Stocker co-chairmen for the annual spring convention. The convention committee has planned a complete schedule of events for the visiting numismatist and his family.

This year, for the first time in several years, the Professional Numismatists' Guild will hold a private bourse the day before the convention opens to the public. The bourse is open by invitation only from noon until 5:30 p.m. on April 18.

The convention opens to the public on Friday, April 19, at 10 a.m. The highlight of the first day's program will be an evening educational forum moderated by Charles Hoskins, Director on the Detroit Money Museum. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. and is open to the public without charge. The final meeting of the 1966-68 Board of Governors will be held following the educational program. The bourse and exhibit areas close at 10 p.m. on Friday.

The convention bourse and display will open at 10 a.m. on Saturday. The annual Society membership meeting will be held at 10 a.m. All members are urged to attend the meeting; the new officers for the coming term will be announced. A noon luncheon is planned for all registered lady guests. Tickets may be obtained without charge when paying the registration fee.

The Michigan Token and Medal Society will hold a meeting at 1:30 p.m. Saturday followed by a meeting of the Paper Money Club of Michigan at 4:30 p.m. Rooms for these meet-

ings, which are open to interested collectors, will be announced at the convention. The bourse and exhibits will close Saturday at 8 p.m. to allow dealers and exhibitors to prepare for the banquet which will be preceded by musical entertainment at 8:30 p.m. The dinner will be served promptly at 9 p.m. with outgoing President Phil More serving as toastmaster.

The convention will be open from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on the final day of the convention. A meeting of the newly elected Board of Governors is slated for Sunday morning.

The entire fourth and fifth floors of the newly decorated Sheraton have been reserved for the Society's convention, and the Committee promises that the bourse and display areas will be well lighted and comfortable for the dealer and the collector. The committee is providing a security room which will be open from Wednesday at noon until noon of the Monday following the convention. As always, numismatists are urged not to leave valuables in their hotel rooms whether they are staying at the convention headquarters or not.

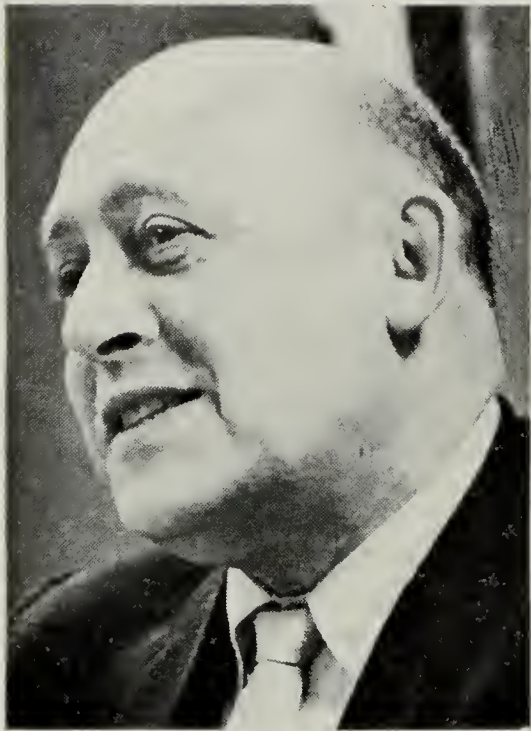
While both bourse and exhibit space is limited, interested collectors should contact the proper chairman for information. Dan Parker will reply to bourse inquiries at 657 Mullett Street, Detroit, Michigan 48221. Irving Moskovitz, Exhibit chairman, will receive requests at 17300 Wyoming, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

Members are urged to make hotel reservations in advance at the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel. In order to obtain the finest service at the hotel members should mention the Central States convention when making reservations.

Parker promises the finest convention east of the Rockies in 1968 and one that shouldn't be missed. See you in Detroit!

FROM YOUR OFFICERS

We look forward to our convention in Detroit with mixed emotions. On one hand, we have the joys of once again meeting and greeting our good friends both in the Society and of oth-



er organizations. On the other hand, however, we have the sorrow of Anna Stocker's passing; this most wonderful woman who was an unfortunate victim of other persons' greed. We hope the perpetrators will not go unpunished.

At this time I once again wish to thank the members for naming me to lead the Society and for bearing with me for the past two years. It was a time of change. Membership fall-offs have been stopped. The Centinel is once again being issued regularly and is being delivered on time. There are more articles, more advertising and more information. The dealers have regained confidence in the Society, and as a result are supporting the C.S.N.S. at our conventions.

It has been a good experience for me, and you know I will continue working as hard for the hobby in the future.

—Philip J. More, President

This issue should come to you early, before convention time which is also early this year. "Strange, but true," this is as it should be, because such a rule was duly voted by your board back in 1958, concerning the publication date of the spring issue of the Centinel.

I have greatly enjoyed going over the old records of this Society for you these past years and putting the same in summary form. I hope to



finish this job, and when we have caught up to date in about two years from now, to place them all together in a booklet form free of charge for those who by their support of Central States have become Life Members and also regular members for five years or over. They will also be available to all others including new members at a very small fee to cover part of the cost to Central States. Don't forget your convention dates in Detroit. Room reservation cards were sent you with the January Centinel mailing. Of course, if you moved and did not tell me, ho-ho, well just write me for another card so you can help your host club by staying at the official convention hotel.

—Dr. F. S. Epps, Secretary

NECROLOGY

ANNA STOCKER 1096

Anna Stocker, 73, wife of Ben Stocker, First Vice President of the Society, died on February 25 at Mt. Sinai Hospital, Detroit. Mrs. Stocker died of injuries sustained when robbers invaded their Detroit apartment and attacked both Ben and Mrs. Stocker.

Mrs. Stocker was very interested and active in numismatics. She attended national, regional and state conventions with her husband and assisted him at his bourse table at numerous Michigan coin shows. The couple celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at the 1965 Houston A.N.A. convention.

Mrs. Stocker was co-chairman of ladies' activities at the 1960 Central States Numismatic Society Convention, the 1962 A.N.A.-C.N.A. Convention, and at many Michigan State Numismatic Society conventions held in Detroit.

In addition to being a member of the Central States Numismatic Society, she was also an active member of the A.N.A., Detroit Coin Club, Birmingham-Bloomfield Coin Club, and Michigan State Numismatic Society.

Mrs. Stocker is survived by her husband Ben, her son, Harold, and a daughter, Helen Tobias and six grandchildren. GDH

ERNEST JONAS L.M. 23

Ernest Jonas, the only surviving charter member of the Chicago Coin Club, died February 29 following an extended illness; he was 80. Jonas,

born in Czechoslovakia, came to Chicago shortly after the turn of the century and spent the remainder of his life there, being employed in the Postal Service. He was an ardent collector and student of Silesian coins and crowns of the world, exhibiting some of his fine pieces frequently at numismatic gatherings.

"Ernie," as his many friends knew him, joined the A.N.A. in 1914 and held membership 1743 in that group. He was a member of the Chicago Numismatic Society and later was given charter membership #18 when the Chicago Coin Club was founded in 1919. He was one of the six members of the Chicago Numismatic Roundtable, an elite group of Chicago numismatists who met during the second quarter of the century. Jonas was also a charter member of the Central States Numismatic Society.

Mr. Jonas is survived by his widow, Magdalena; a son, Henry; a daughter, Eleanor; eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. GBS

BYRON L. PLACE 1172

Byron L. Place, 73, a coin dealer in Toledo, Ohio, died recently. Mr. Place had operated the Toledo coin shop for 17 years and was well known among the area collectors. In addition to being active in many church and service groups, Mr. Place was a member of the A.N.A. and Toledo Coin Club.

Survivors include his widow, Ruth; sons Forest, Donald and Byron; a stepson, Steve Dow; a sister, and a brother. Services were held in the St. Ignatius cemetery in Oregon, Ohio.

CW

LATE WORD

Chairman Parker reports that the Detroit convention bourse is sold out and a waiting list remains. Exhibit space, however, is still available from Irving Moskovitz, 17300 Wyoming, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

(The following new members as well as those whose names appear on page 11 of the July, 1967 Centinel will be elected to membership in the Society at the Detroit convention.)

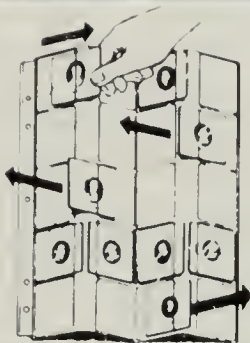
1995	Franz Brazzell	Terre Haute, Indiana
1996	Marvin F. Fredrick	Hamtramack, Michigan
1997	Charles F. Robinson	Austin, Minnesota
1998	Edward M. Spiegeler	Rochester, Minnesota
1999	Edward I. Oliver	Norris City, Illinois
2000	Paul C. Bruce	Venice, California
2001	Eugene A. Collister	Detroit, Michigan
2002	Daniel C. Parker	Detroit, Michigan
2003	Joe Overstreet	Saginaw, Michigan
2004	Orval Stock	Saginaw, Michigan
2005	Henry Leonhardt	Calxton, Missouri
2006	Milton H. Bartels	Richmond Heights, Missouri
2007	Donald Fowler	Florissant, Missouri
2008	J. B. Shirley	Fort Wayne, Indiana
2009	Emery Parks	St. Louis, Missouri
2010	H. E. McDowell	St. Louis, Missouri
2011	Earl Davis	Sarnia, Ontario, Canada
2012	Phillips S. Pratt	Sarnia, Ontario, Canada
2013	Virgil Hancock	Bellaire, Texas
2014	George J. Geiss	Berkley, Missouri
2015	David V. Perry	Estorial, Portugal
2016	Robert A. Condo	Detroit, Michigan
2017	Virginia Bronson	Richards-Gebaur AFB, Missouri
2018	Sgt. Richard F. Bronson	Richards-Gebaur AFB, Missouri
2019	Ernest Lush	Union Lake, Michigan
2020	Gary Butts	Muscatine, Iowa
2021	H. E. Scheidemantle	Fort Wayne, Indiana
2022	Ted J. Stock	Chicago, Illinois
2023	William A. Verwolf	Chicago, Illinois
2024	Kenneth L. Anderson	Caro, Michigan
2025	Harold A. Anderson	Caro, Michigan
2026	Virgil T. Foss	Northfield, Minnesota
2027	Orlane Kittle	Winona, Minnesota
2028	Stanley L. S. Zaleski	Winnipeg, Manitoba
2029	William A. Fowler	Winnipeg, Manitoba
2030	David J. Hood	Owosso, Michigan
2031	Phyllis T. Borenstein	Madison, Wisconsin
2032	Andrew C. Peppo	Detroit, Michigan
2033	Louis C. Peppo	Detroit, Michigan
2034	Vernon Dupee	East Detroit, Michigan
2035	Charles R. Hoskins	Detroit, Michigan
2036	Randel Mastroddi	Champaign, Illinois
2037	Leo J. Lange	Winona, Minnesota

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This request by Charles K. Lyle for the advancing of Youth in the A.N.A.

THE ROYAL MAUNDY MONEY

By RUSSELL E. PORTER

Governor — C.S.N.S. 557

Since coins were first minted they have often been coined for specific purposes. Probably "Maundy Money" is the best known and most prolific of any issue for a single purpose.

The Thursday before Easter is known as Maundy Thursday and observances of religious character relating to the Passion of our Lord were celebrated on this day. In Rome the Pope washed the feet of thirteen priests who represented the twelve Apostles and the Angel who came to the table of St. Gregory. The Pope served them bread and wine and gave his benediction and left. In other countries it was the head of state or the Archbishop who presided at these ceremonies.

In England the Maundy is referred to by St. Augustine in 600 A.D. The ceremony was not limited to Maundy Thursday until some time later. The King washed the feet of as many men as he was years old. Also he gave them money, meat, and clothes. Queen Elizabeth I performed the ceremony after the paupers' feet had been washed in sweet herbs by Yeoman of the laundry. James II was the

last monarch to perform this ceremony. William III delegated the washing to his Almoneer. This continued until 1754. Since then the ceremony consists of the presentation of the Maundy Money officially labeled "Maund Pennies." They were first coined in the reign of Charles II. The service formerly took place in the Chapel Royal, Whitehall. It is now held in Westminster Abbey. It is on Maundy Thursday that the Roman Catholic church blesses the sacred oil and the chrism is prepared according to an ancient and elaborate ritual.

In England the coins consist of a silver four, three, two and one pence in sufficient number to equal the monarch's age. A red purse with a white draw string was used to redeem the sovereign's robe or ceremonial gown. A white purse with a red draw string was given to the women. The number of purses equalled the number of years in the monarch's age. This number was given to both men and women.

Complete purses are very rare as sets of coins are broken up for collectors.

A SMALL WORLD

4000 miles separate us, but it's only a matter of hours nowadays. Hope to see you at the Detroit convention, but in the meantime when buying and selling scarce world coins or antiques why not drop us a line — airmail. Or better yet, stop by and say hello.

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Estoril, Portugal

HISTORY OF THE C.S.N.S.

By DR. F. S. EPPS

(Continued from January issue)

The sixteenth annual Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society was held at Cincinnati, Ohio, May 9-11, 1958 at the Netherlands-Hilton Hotel. The annual business meeting was called to order by President Gerber at 10 a.m. in the hotel's fourth floor meeting room.

The Secretary's reports from the St. Louis convention and from the June 1, 1957 interim meeting were read and approved. The annual report of the Secretary and Treasurer was read and accepted. It was decided that henceforth new members would be elected as a group and that the reading of the names of new members would be dispensed with. It was also determined that the Life Membership regulations passed in 1950 be incorporated into the By-laws, "An applicant must have been a regular member for one year before applying for Life Membership."

"The Convention Guide" was finished and presented by Lillard Culver who was given a standing vote of thanks for his faithful service to the Society. Ray O. Lefman reported on the plans for the 1959 convention in Kansas City while Mrs. Gonzolas reported on the 1960 Detroit conclave. President Gerber reported on the "Convention Planning Committee," and after extensive remarks it was decided that the length of the convention would remain at three days.

A discussion of plans for the Central States Numismatic Society to own its own exhibit cases was referred to the Board. D. Wayne Johnson reported and submitted drawings for a possible change in the C.S.N.S. seal. Vernon Sheldon reported on the "Medal of Merit Code Committee" which outlined the duties of the chairman of this committee. The report was also

referred to the Board for action. The restrictions on bourse dealers being prohibited from exhibiting were removed. Dues were set at \$2.00 per year for regular members and \$30.00 for Life Members and reinstatement memberships at \$3.00.

The nomination committee reported the following slate of officers and board members of the Society for the following years. President, Harry X Boosel; Vice President, Ray O. Lefman; Secretary, Dr. F. S. Epps; Board of Governors, Harold E. Baker, Harold Bowen, Harry Collura, Ray M. Janda, D. Wayne Johnson, Sol Kaplan, Louis Karp, Mark Nelson, Clifford Lindell, and T. F. Pokorney.

A discussion was held to determine the registration and bourse fees for conventions. It was decided that the total cost of registration and the banquet should not exceed \$10 and that the bourse fee should be less than \$75. The Board at the convention also authorized the purchase of all of the old wooden display cases owned by the American Numismatic Association.

The 1961 convention was awarded to Minneapolis. The cash balance in the treasury was \$505.84 with membership at 420 regular and 72 life. The convention realized \$142 with registration at 463, banquet attendance 211, and 77 bourse dealers. The board accepted the "Code" for awarding medals of merit. Ray Lefman, C. A. M. Smith, and Nathan Gold were appointed to the Convention Rules Committee. The Society announced the purchase of 128 cases, 80 from the A.N.A. for \$5 each and 48 from Sol Kaplan at \$175. Life membership was voted to Neil Certain. The Board adjourned to meet in interim session in Chicago October 4, 1958.

(To be continued)

MINT MARKS RETURN TO OUR COINAGE

(Courtesy Krause Publications, Whitman Publishing Co., and Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine)

The formal return of mint marks to U.S. coinage was marked in a special ceremony at the Denver Mint on January 4, 1968. Director of the Mint Miss Eva Adams and Superintendent Mrs. Marian N. Rossmiller of the Denver facility symbolically threw the switch on a press which began spew-

sentatives of the daily and hobby press.

The newly minted halves display the restored "D" mint mark just below the truncation of Kennedy's bust. Our other four denominations also display their mint marks on the obverse side of the coin. Illustrated are speci-



Enlarged photo of 1968 proof coins showing location of mint mark.

ing forth newly minted half dollars.

Actually, the mint had begun striking coins bearing the "D" mint mark on January 2. However, the ceremonies provided the first visible evidence of mint mark restoration for anyone other than mint employees. There to witness the event were distinguished representatives of the hobby led by American Numismatic Association President Arthur Sipe, local politicians and scores of repre-

men coins struck at the San Francisco Assay Office minting facility, which display the "S" mint mark in the same location as the "D" on the coins struck at Denver.

Miss Adams announced that cents and nickels will be struck for circulation at the San Francisco facility, but that only proof dimes, quarters, and halves will bear the "S" mark. Halves for circulation will only be struck at Denver in 1968 while the other four

denominations will be struck at both Denver and Philadelphia.

The presence of mint marks on our coins had been prohibited for the past three years by a section of the Coinage Act of 1965. The return of the marks apparently marks the end of the coin shortage. It also marks the first time since 1955 that coins will display the "S" mint mark.

Mint marks provide not only collectors with numismatic varieties, but also are easy devices for determining the origin of the coinage for the Treasury Department. The mint mark is a fundamental feature of a coin as far as the collector is concerned. In

they provide for collections. Down through the years have served the vital function of attesting to the origin and worthiness of a coin to serve as a store of value.

Thus, at the same time restoration of mint marks to our coinage system is important to the government as a control factor, it continues a tradition in our monetary history, the study of which has given the collector much enjoyment, pleasure and relaxation. Furthermore, mint marks give the collector an added incentive in the pursuit of his hobby.

The San Francisco Assay Office began mailing out the 1968 proof sets

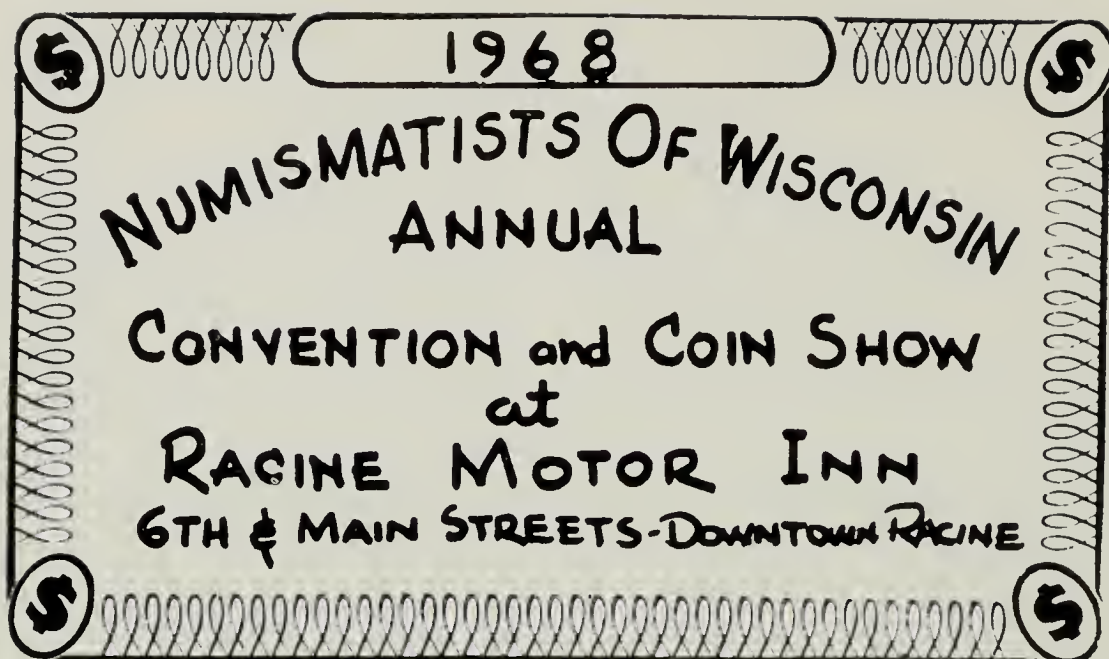


Posing in front of the press that struck the first 1968 Denver Mint half dollar on January 4, is (l. to r.) Lee F. Hewitt, Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine; Mrs. Margo Russell, Coin World; Miss Eva Adams, Director of the Mint; Chester L. Krause, Numismatic News; Mrs. Thelma Brown, wife of PNG prexy, Dan Brown; Richard S. Yeoman, Whitman Publishing Co.; Congressman Rogers; Edward C. Rochette, ANA Secretary and Editor of the Numismatist.

modern times, since about 1500, a complete listing of the mints and their various distinctive marks would perhaps number some 1500 entries. Every letter of the alphabet has been used both singly and in many combinations, as well as such distinctive depictions as animals, flowers, and even hearts.

Even though in United States coinage history the mint mark serves more a traditional function than one of necessity, it must be remembered that mint marks have a much greater significance than the material additions

immediately following New Year's. It has been reported that almost three million sets have been ordered to date and an early cut-off time is anticipated. Collectors desiring proofs may do so by sending a check or money order made payable to the Officer in Charge, U.S. Assay Office in the amount of \$5 per set. Orders are limited to 20 sets or less per order. They are to be sent to the Officer in Charge, U.S. Assay Office, Numismatic Service, 350 Duboce Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102.



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ATTENTION

The following are dates of future C.S.N.S. Conventions:

April 19-21, 1968	Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel	Detroit, Michigan
May 2- 4, 1969	Sheraton-Chicago Hotel	Chicago, Illinois
May 1- 3, 1970	Pick-Carter Hotel	Cleveland, Ohio
April 27-29, 1971	Chase Hotel	St. Louis, Missouri

Invitations for future conventions must be submitted in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer. Information and particulars may be obtained from Howard B. Eisenberg, P.O. Box 45307, Chicago, Illinois 60645.

Howard B. Eisenberg
Director of Public Relations

THE DEMISE OF AMERICAN COINAGE



Editorial Opinion

Even the most vocal critic of current American foreign and domestic policy would agree that the United States is certainly the world's wealthiest and probably the world's most powerful nation. This fact is reflected in almost every aspect of American and even international life—but NOT in our coinage. American coinage today is poorly struck, with unimaginative designs, on planchets that would be rejected by almost any tin can company.

The entire question of coin design is one of aesthetics—one may assume that any piece of metal issued by the government and given a specific value would be accepted as the coinage of the realm. A numismatist, however, looks at coinage as more than pieces of metal stamped with a value. Indeed, the coin beyond its intrinsic or stated value is the very essence of our hobby. The importance of coin design and its position as a true art has long been accepted. All one must do is study ancient coinage to discover the great sophistication early coin designs achieved. Recently, even the Soviet Union, long content to display only the hammer and sickle on its coinage, has begun to expand art on its coin design — purely within the “socialist realism” school, however.

Today America, the greatest nation in the history of the world, has a coinage struck in worthless metals, on planchets that not infrequently fall apart, with designs that are entirely limited to busts, birds, and buildings.

This is not meant to reflect upon the engravers or the men whose busts appear on our coins. All one must do is to look at the outstanding work

Gilroy Roberts has done since leaving the Philadelphia mint to see that excellent work can be done in low relief by the same men who were turning out “pop art” coins for the Treasury Department.

The factor that caused the most obvious deterioration of our coinage was the debasement of 1965. The historical precedents for debasement should have been enough to deter this type of action—it wasn't. The resulting coinage left America with tokens that probably are making the early American coin engravers turn over in their graves. In addition to this, today coins are so poorly struck that it is sometimes difficult to read the inscriptions.

The problem is more than simply a technical one, however. Since 1932 every denomination of coinage has undergone at least one change. In each case the change has been from a more creative design to a less imaginative creation. In 1938 Felix Schlag was forced to remove a tree and redesign Monticello in order to collect the prize money for the design of the Jefferson five cent piece. As a result, the reverse of this coin carries a building that is flat and lacks the vitality of the sculptor's original. It would seem that the Treasury desires that American coinage not reflect the vitality and power that has gained our country a position unmatched in world history. Our coinage will leave nothing for posterity except, perhaps, an indication of how apathetic a large portion of our communities has become to the more aesthetic side of life.

HBE

CLUB CORNER

John H. Cain was elected President of the Heart of America Numismatic Association (C.S.N.S. #919) at a recent meeting. Other members elected for 1968 were Richard Holmes, First Vice President; John Freeman, Second Vice President; Mrs. Martin McFall, Secretary; Charles A. Keeler, Treasurer; Nelle Bly Godsmark, Corresponding Secretary and A.N.A. Club Representative; and Dale and Rosetta Thompson, editors of the HANA publication. . . . Dan Parker was recently elected President of the Michigan State Numismatic Society, (C.S.N.S. #1003) Robert Lusch and Robert F. Judd were elected Vice Presidents, and John M. Rieman, Secretary-Treasurer . . . The February meeting of the Chicago Coin Club (C.S.N.S. #756) marked the beginning of that organization's fiftieth year. The Club will mark the anniversary with a dinner in January, 1969. The C.C.C. awarded its Medal of Merit to Thomas Shugrue, one of the veteran members of the Club, and its Literary Medal to one of the organization's newest members, William Pettit. At the January meeting A.N.A. Past President Matt Rothert installed the slate of officers for their second term. . . . The annual convention of the Nebraska Numismatic Association will be held April 20-21 at the Hotel Yancey in Grand Island. Bob Kutcher, Lincoln, has

been nominated for President of the State organization. . . . The Midwest Numismatic Association (C.S.N.S. #1192) has been refused a tax exempt certificate by the Internal Revenue Service. A similar situation has been solved by the Chicago Coin Club which was granted a certificate after one year and three filings. . . Dale Thompson was elected President of the M.N.A. at the December meeting. Also elected were Tom Pennacchio and G. J. Swofford Vice Presidents; J. A. Randall, Treasurer; and Rosetta Thompson, Secretary. The Club also obtained a proclamation for National Coin Week from Missouri Governor Warren E. Hearnes. . . . The Missouri Numismatic Society (C.S.N.S. #850) has formed a Junior Auxiliary for collectors in the 12 to 17 age bracket. At the March M.N.S. meeting Al Wick presented a slide-tape lecture on "Interesting Coins and Medals". . . . The monthly publication of the Fort Wayne (Old Fort) Coin Club contains the new column being written by L. D. Beaver, "Numis-Nucis." . . . The Centinel's Second Annual Club listing will hopefully appear in the July Centinel. Secretaries are asked to look for our questionnaire and return it promptly to the Editor. News items are to be sent to The Centinel, P.O. Box 45307, Chicago, Ill. 60645. Photos are also welcome.

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For as little as \$1.75 per issue you can reach 1000 outstanding numismatists in the central states area. When your ad appears in The Centinel you become a friend and a well known dealer to the members of the C.S.N.S. Check the Centinel ad rates and mail your ad in today.

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P. O. Box 45307

Chicago, Illinois 60645

CENTRAL STATINGS . . Culled by H. B. Eisenberg

By popular demand I am not publishing a photo with this month's column. The comments ("Looked like you were hit by a truck") and "Was that really a wax cast of your face") were subtle enough hints . . . Jim Grebinger, the President of the Chicago Coin Club, has proved himself not only a great administrator by obtaining for the Club a Tax Exempt Certificate, but a higher mathematician as well. Jim added up all the C.C.C. meetings and found that somewhere a couple of meetings were skipped and that the 500th is really in January, not in November . . . The Detroit convention promises to be a great affair. The tragedy involving the Stockers, however, will take some of the cheer away from the annual convention. At times like this one attempts to find words to explain or something to say to make things seem better, but words are grossly inadequate . . . Thank you all for writing me in answer to last issue's Editorial. I also am most grateful to those of you who sent articles and ads. While I'm thinking about it, there are several people who should be thanked for their devotion to the Society, Elvira Kurth, Tom Nolan, and A. E. Bebee have supported our publication for the past year with their ads. Also Lee Hewitt who prints (and corrects, at times) our work with the Centinel. Lee ends his association with the Scrapbook this month after more than 33 years. All we can do is wish Lee all the good luck and relaxation in the world. . . Bill Pettit, whose article concludes this issue, is not only an author, professional numismatist, and Assay Commissioner, but a TV star. One Saturday evening recently we hit upon Bill attempting to identify some movie stars on a local game show. Bill lost, but I guess even he can't win all the time . . . Chicago is losing one of its finest pro-

fessional numismatists. Leonard Stark is closing his Loop store and is heading out to California. Leonard has a reputation, and a well-deserved one, for being completely honest. There are all too few dealers like Leonard who are able to turn down an extra buck for the good of the hobby. The story is that a local collector made the rounds of the coin stores with a 1914-D cent asking what it was worth and offering to sell it at a very low price. Not only did Leonard refuse to buy the coin, but detained the collector while he called the police. We hope Leonard doesn't leave the hobby, we need people like him . . . Maurice Gould and I have been working on a program for the exchange of articles between his publication (NASC Quarterly) and The Centinel. It is hoped to eventually establish a program for exchange articles between several regional publications. In this way we can bring the best articles nationally to our readers . . . The appointment of Lt. Col. Adna G. Wilde as new ANA Executive Director is a fine move by the ANA Board. The death of Ernest Jonas in Chicago brings to an end an era. Ernie was associated with Henri Ripstra, Alden Scott Boyer, and other great Chicago numismatists who did so much for numismatics nationally . . . We hope to see many of our friends—both new and old—at the Detroit convention. If you are there please stop and let me know how you feel about OUR publication. If you can't make the convention please drop me a note with an ad, comment, or article . . . Well, we end another two years of Society history. We hope that The Centinel has made this period a little more enjoyable. As our term as Editor does not end until November we hope to get another couple of issues out, but we are still eager to hear from you. Do try to make the Detroit convention.

BY-LAWS AND ELECTIONS

Every Central States member should have a copy of our current By-laws. All regular, life and club members were sent a copy with the October, 1967 Centinel. All new members receive a copy of these By-laws when their application for membership is processed.

Article III, Sections 7, 8, and 9 concern the elections; I quote from Section 8: "Each envelope shall bear a different number, but the number selected shall be within the sole discretion of the Secretary." The numbers in red ink on your ballot and on your ballot envelope are not your membership numbers in Central

States. If you will read the rest of this Section (8), you will understand why your ballots and ballot envelopes are given a secret number. After your ballot is sealed, it will be opened only by the Election Committee. How you voted is not known to the Secretary, and I am not in the least concerned. Several envelopes have come back with this ballot number blacked out. These ballots will be voided, and the Election Committee will also void any ballot when they open the ballot envelope, where the number has been inked out on the ballot.

Dr. F. S. Epps, Secretary

NEWS BRIEFS

Several members of the Society were appointed by President Johnson to serve on the 1968 Assay Commission which met February 14 in Philadelphia to test the quality of our coinage. Appointed to the Commission were C.S.N.S. members Dan Brown Denver; Virginia Culver, Thiensville, Wis.; John Cain, Kansas City; Julian S. Marks, Cincinnati; William A. Pettit, Aurora, Illinois; and Sidney W. Smith, Miami. Also appointed was Mrs. Marion Yeoman of Racine, Wis.

Senator Karl E. Mundt (R-S.D.) has proposed that a depiction of his state's best known landmark, Mount Rushmore, be adopted for the reverse side of the one dollar notes. On January 18 Senator Mundt introduced a bill (S. 2823) which would replace the Great Seal with the heads of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt as shown on the Bad Lands monument. The Senator referred to the Great Seal as an "archaic monstrosity" and assailed the current



decorative ONE also found on the note. Mundt presented a sketch (see photo) for the new note which would still, however, incorporate the Great Seal. The Legislature of South Dakota and Congressmen from the state have introduced similar legislation in their respective bodies. Senator Mundt's request was referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

COMING EVENTS

April 19-21	Detroit, Michigan	Clarence Gould, 8308 E. 106th Terrace
	C.S.N.S. CONVENTION	Kansas City, Missouri 64134
	Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel	* * *
	Daniel Parker	August 17-18
657 Mullett Street	Detroit 48221	St. Louis, Mo.
* * *		M.N.S. 9th Annual Coin Festival
April 20-21	Grand Island, Neb.	St. Louis Gateway Hotel
Nebraska Numis. Assn. Convention		David Cooper
	Hotel Yancey	3500 Ridgedale St. St. Louis 63120
	Elmer G. Nelson	* * *
Box 674	Grand Island, Neb.	August 20-24
* * *		San Diego, Calif.
April 21-27	National	A.N.A. 77th Annual Convention
National Coin Week, 1968		El Cortez Hotel
* * *		Al Baber
June 8-9	Racine, Wis.	611 Oakwood Way, El Cajon, Calif.
N.O.W. Annual State Convention		* * *
	Racine Motor Inn	November 29-30
2021 West Blvd. Racine, Wisconsin		Kansas City, Mo.
* * *		20th Annual HANA Midwest Coin
June 14-16	Oscoda, Michigan	Show — Hotel Continental
Michigan State Spring Convention		John Cain
P.O. Box 399 Oscoda, Mich. 48750		8708 E. 53rd Terr., Kansas City 64129
* * *		* * *
June 14-16	Kansas City, Mo.	May 2-4, 1969
Midwest Numis. Assn. Spring Show		Chicago, Illinois
Continental Hotel		50/30 C.S.N.S. ANNIVERSARY
		CONVENTION
		Sheraton-Chicago Hotel
		P.O. Box 45307 Chicago, Ill. 60645

THIS SPACE CAN BE YOURS

Choice advertising space still remains for future issues of **THE CENTINEL**. You can reach the outstanding numismatists of the middle west by advertising in **THE CENTINEL**. Check our ad rate now and mail in an ad for the July issue.

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Full page	20.00	18.00	16.00	14.00
Covers*	25.00	22.50	20.00	17.50

* Subject to prior commitment

July deadline — June 1

Howard B. Eisenberg, Editor

THE CENTINEL

P. O. Box 45307

Chicago, Illinois 60645

THE RESURRECTION OF THE FIRST COLUMBIAN HALF DOLLAR

By WILLIAM A. PETTIT
C.S.N.S. #1782

Entrant 1968-69 Elston Bradfield Literary Competition

Take a chance meeting, an incomplete library index card, and a tattered newspaper, and you have the keys to unlock one of the numismatic mysteries of the decade.

One day early in March of this year, a man came to me at my work in Chicago and asked if there were any coin shows in the area in the immediate future. I told him that the next show of import in the area was the P.N.G. show to be held in October. Then I became curious and said, "Why do you ask?"

He said, "First, I should identify myself," and he handed me a card reading: "E. Leland Webber, Director, Field Museum of Natural History." Immediately I was interested!

"We found something at the Museum that might be of interest to collectors, and we would like to have it exhibited at a show."

"Oh? What's that?" I asked.

"The first Columbian Half Dollar!" was his reply.

Needless to say, this was a surprise and I became even more interested. I asked him just what it would take to have it placed on exhibit at the P.N.G. Show in the Fall.

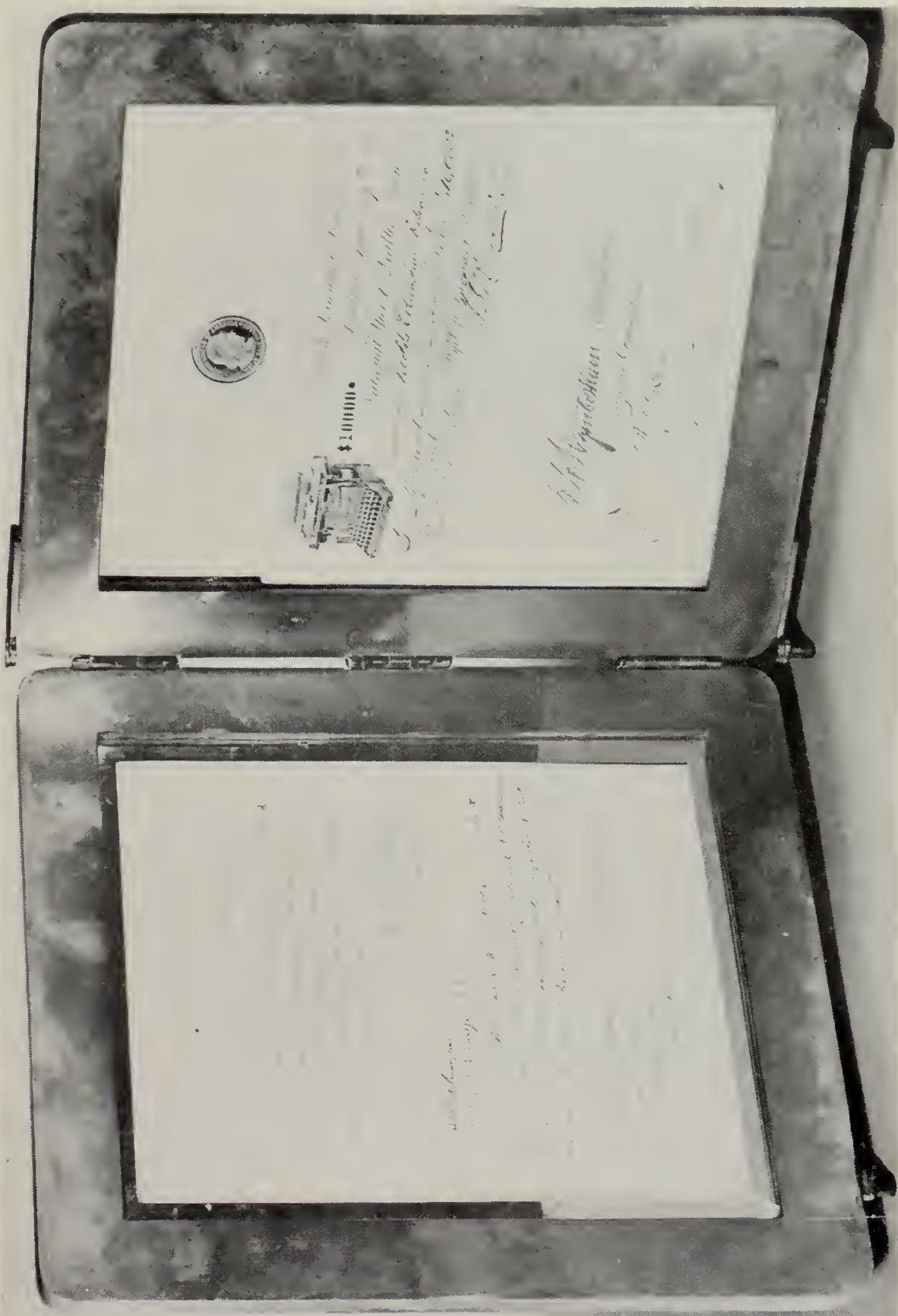
He replied, "Well, mainly three things. First, that it has adequate protection while outside the Museum. Second, that the Museum get adequate recognition in the publicity concerning the exhibit. And the third is probably the most unusual and the most important; that is, that the coin is not now, nor ever will be, on display at the Museum. The coin is not a part of our regular collections. It is a part of the 'accumulated memorabilia' that all museums have. We feel, however,

that such an item would be of interest to collectors."

I assured him that we could undoubtedly meet all of these requirements, and that I was going to be at the Museum in a few weeks and would like to make any additional preparation that might be necessary, and also to see the coin.

A few weeks later I made an appointment with Mr. Webber and went to the Field Museum to see the coin. When I arrived, Mr. Webber was just preparing to leave town, so he turned me over to Mr. Norman Nelson, the business manager of the Museum. I mentioned to him that I had come to see the First Columbian Half Dollar. He told me to be seated while he went down to the vault to get the coin. When he returned, he asked me to step into the next room to look at it.

As I stepped into the room, I saw a wooden box about 2 feet wide, perhaps 3 feet long, and about 8 inches thick, and it seemed to me that this was a very large package for one little coin to come in. Inside the box was a heavy brass frame that opened like a book exposing four sides. On the first page was the following document: "The undersigned testify that on the nineteenth day of December, 1892, we witnessed the breaking of the original sealed package from the mint, in which was enclosed the box marked 'No. 1', containing the First Columbian Half Dollar and the sworn certificate of the Superintendent of the Mint; and witnessed further the delivery of the said coin and certificate to Wyckoff, Seamans and Benedict, by Mr. H. N. Higinbotham,



President of the Worlds' Columbian Exposition. And we further testify that the identical coin was immediately enclosed in the accompanying glass

case, and in our presence sealed up." This document was signed by 19 administrators of the Columbian Exposition Commission.

On the second page of the frame was a document written on stationery from the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa., from the Superintendent's Office, dated November 19, 1892, which read as follows:

"I hereby certify that the souvenir coin in box marked No. 1 was the first piece struck from the dies adopted for the Columbian Half Dollar, and sealed up in my presence, and in the presence of the Coiner, and delivered to Mr. James W. Ellsworth, of the Columbian Exposition Directors." This was signed by the Superintendent, O. C. Bosbyshell, and duly notarized by William C. Work below the body of the letter.

On the third page, in between the sealed glass panels, was the coin — the first 1892 Columbian Half Dollar — the first United States Commemorative coin — a brilliant proof. With it on that page was a phototype of the \$10,000 check paid by Wyckoff, Seamans and Benedict, on behalf of the Remington Typewriter Company, to purchase this first coin, and below were the signatures of H. N. Higginbotham and five members of the Finance Committee.

On the fourth page was another typewritten letter, this one by the manager of a safety deposit vault in Chicago, dated June 5, 1893: "I hereby (certify) that the temporary sealed glass case containing the First Columbian Half Dollar was deposited in safety deposit drawer #6384 in our vault, in the presence of H. N. Higginbotham representing the World's Columbian Exposition, and Mr. John F. McClain representing Wyckoff, Seamans and Benedict, on the nineteenth day of December, 1892, since which date the said drawer has never been opened until the fifth day of June, 1893, when in my presence and in the presence of the witnesses signed below, the identical sealed glass case was removed from drawer #

6384, and in my presence and in the presence of the witnesses signed below, the seals were broken, the glass case was opened, the coin removed, a private mark was engraved upon the face of it, and the same identical coin was then placed, with the certificate of the mint and other documents testifying to its identity, between the plate-glass sheets of the accompanying case. The glass leaves were then cemented together, then securely cemented to the framework, the frames locked, the keys destroyed, and the keyholes filled up." The signatures of the witnesses are below that of the vault manager.

As you noticed in the preceding document, 'a small private mark was engraved upon the face of it.' I was concerned about this because I thought an otherwise flawless coin might have been damaged. It came to mind also that if this coin were displayed, people would be searching for the mark and it would be wise to know its location. So I took out my magnifying glass and went over the face of the coin very carefully. Only after long searching and looking did I find what I presumed to be the private mark. In the triangle formed by the bottom of Columbus' hair, the back of his neck and the collar of his garment, was a small nick as if someone had taken the point of a jackknife and made the mark.

And that was the private mark put, on June 5, 1893, in the most inconspicuous spot that one could imagine!

Next, I asked Mr. Nelson if this piece had ever been on exhibit anywhere. He said he was not acquainted with this facet, but that he would try to find out. He stepped to the telephone and called the exhibit department. He asked for a particular gentleman, and after a brief talk he hung up and said "I just spoke to a man in our exhibit department who last month (February, 1967) celebrated his

49th year with the Museum. He says unequivocally that the coin has never been exhibited since he has been with the Museum." This then took care of nearly 50 of the 75 years that have elapsed since the coin was made.

As I left the Museum, I began to ponder as to where one might get additional information about the First Columbian Half Dollar. It seemed reasonable to presume that because Chicago was the location of the Columbian Exposition, other facts were available here in the city. And then it came to me, of course, the Chicago Historical Society.

Upon arriving at the Society, I went to the library. There I explained to a young man that I was looking for information concerning the Columbian Exposition, and specifically the making of the first Columbian Half Dollars. He showed me that there were several file drawers of cards on the Exposition, and he offered to select a few that might be more closely related to my interest. He came up with about three cards that alluded to the Half Dollars. One of the cards was a great surprise. It read: "The first Columbian Half Dollar given to H. N. Higinbotham, president of the World's Columbian Exposition." I was surprised at this because I was under the impression the first Columbian Half Dollar was sold to the Remington Typewriter Company for \$10,000.

I asked the young man where I could find more information about what it said on the card. He said that information would be in the authority file downstairs and that we would have to go down there. I assured him I was interested, and we went downstairs together. We arrived at a first floor office and made our quest known. One of the ladies in the office directed us to the authority file and began looking for the items that would verify the

library index card. After a time the Society curator, Mr. Joseph Zywicki, came in and helped to look for the folder we were seeking. After a few more minutes had passed the file folder was found and gave forth its incredible data. The startling bit of information that we got from the file was not that Mr. Higinbotham had been given the first Columbian Half Dollar, but that he had been given the first 1893 Columbian Half Dollar, and that that coin was in possession of the Chicago Historical Society!

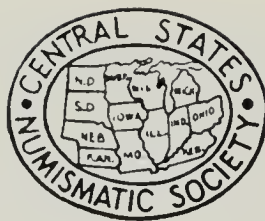
This then, presented another interesting possibility — the possibility of exhibiting both Columbian Half Dollars — the first 1892 and the first 1893 together, probably for the first time in history.

It came to me then that with the discovery of both these "firsts" it might be interesting to write an article about these coins and get more information. With this idea in mind I returned to the library and asked the young man if they had any old newspapers. I already knew that the first coin was minted November 19, 1892, and it seemed reasonable to presume that with transportation and communication being what they were in that day, it was unlikely that the news would get in the papers on the same day, but possibly the next day.

I was directed to a room that was lined with shelves containing bound newspapers dating well back into the 19th century. I looked in the area where the *Chicago Tribune* was filed and started looking for November 20, 1892. I found the proper edition and laid it out on the table. Nothing on the first page, nothing on the second page, nothing on the third page. But on page 4, column 1, was the whole story of the striking of the first Columbian Half Dollars.

(To be continued in July issue)

Central States



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Address all correspondence regarding The Centinel to the Editor.

U.S. SMALL SIZE NOTES

All Superb, Crisp Unc. if not otherwise stated. # Indicates margin trifle close. Trade in your Silver Certificates (new or worn). Time is running out — send List For Trade-in or Cash Estimate. No deals after May 30.

\$1 SILVER CERT.

201-1	1928	13.00
201-2	1928A AU	4.65
	# \$8.50	10.50
201-3	1928B #	10.50 12.50
201-4	1928C EF-CU Write	
201-5	1928D # \$199	229.00
201-6	1928E CU	Wanted

No one pays more, Write

201-7	1934 #	\$9.45 11.75
201-8	1935 #	\$9.85 12.50
201-9	1935A AU	2.25
	# \$3.25	3.95
201-10	1935-B	11.00
201-11	1935C AU	2.45
	# \$4.35	5.50

201-12W	1935D Wide	
	Rev. #	\$3.75 4.75

201-12N	1935D Narrow	
	Rev. #	\$3.25 3.95

201-13	1935E *	\$3.95 2.75
201-15	1935F *	\$3.95 2.75

201-17	1935G No Mot	
	# \$2.45	2.95

201-18	1935G Motto	
	# \$2.45	3.95

201-20	1935H	2.50
201-14	1957 *	\$2.50, 2.25

201-16	1957A *	2.50, 2.25
	Gem	2.25

201-19	1957B *	\$2.50, 2.25
	Gem	2.25

Red "R" & "S" Issue

R201, S201 Pair # Su-		
perb		149.50
Same, last two Nos. match,		
#	\$144.50	156.50

NORTH AFRICA

A201	1935-A \$1	13.50
A205-2	1934A \$5	

Ex.F. \$13.50 24.50

A201-2	1934A \$10. Ex.F.	
	\$19, AU \$24	32.50

\$1 LEGAL TENDER

101-1	1928 #	\$22.50 27.50
No. under 2,000 #	\$33.	38.50
No. under 5,000 #	\$29	36.00

\$1 MIS-MATCHED

NOTES

1957B U37/U47 Gem	39.50
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HAWAIIAN ISSUE

H201	1935A \$1 #	6.75 8.50
No. under 1,000		16.50
No. under 2,000		14.50
H505-1	1934 \$5	64.50

H505-2	1934A \$5	
	# \$28.50	32.50

H510	1934-A \$10	Wtd.
H520	1934 \$20 VG	39.50
	EF \$295, CU	Write

H520-2	1934A \$20 CU	Wtd.
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\$5 SILVER CERT.

205-1	1934	17.50
205-2	1934A AU	10.50 16.50
205-3	1934B	47.50

205-4	1934C	17.50
205-5	1934D	14.50
205-6	1953	13.50

205-7	1953-A #	11.50 12.50
	Star	14.00

205-8	1953B #	11.00 12.50
Above Set (9)		149.50

\$10 SILVER CERT.

210-1	1933 VF-CU	Wtd.
210-2	1934	37.50
210-3	1934A	33.50

210-4	1934B EF-CU	Write
210-5	1934C	22.50
210-6	1934D	22.50

210-7	1953	28.50
210-8	1953A	26.50
210-9	1953B #	\$21 24.50

\$2 LEGAL TENDER

102-1	1928	47.50
102-2	1928A CU	Wanted

No one pays more — Write

102-3	1928B CU	wtd. Write
102-4	1928C #	\$18 22.50
102-5	1928D #	\$15 19.00

102-6	1928E	32.50
102-7	1928F #	\$14.50 19.00
102-8	1928G #	\$8.75 12.50

102-9	1953 #	\$5.95 7.95
102-10	1953A #	\$5.95 7.95
102-11	1953B #	\$3.75 4.95

102-12	1953C #	\$3.00 4.50
102-13	1963	3.50
102-14	1963A	3.95

Above Set (12), No 1928A		
1928B #	\$149.	169.50

\$5 LEGAL TENDER

105-1	1928 AU	\$13 29.00
105-2	1928A #	\$39 49.50
105-3	1928B AU	\$15 34.50

105-4	1928C	22.50
105-5	1928D	Wtd. 59.50
105-6	1928E #	\$16 22.50

105-7	1928F	19.50
105-8	1953	18.50
105-9	1953A *	\$15 13.50

105-10	1953-B	11.95
105-11	1953C	9.50
105-12	1963	6.25

Above Set (12)		287.50
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\$5 FED. RESERVE

505-6GL	1934	16.50
505-3D	1928B	22.50
505-3G	1928B	19.50

505-3J	1928B	24.50
505-6B	1934 #	\$16.00 22.50
505-6GL	1934	16.50

505-9G	1934C	10.50
505-11G	1950	10.50
505-11J	1950	11.50

505-12J	1950A	9.50
505-13J	1950B	8.50
505-14J	1950C	7.75

505-15J	1950	6.50
	Star	7.50

\$10 FED. RESERVE

510-8G	1934C	16.50
510-10J	1950	17.50
510-10K	1950	17.50

510-11J	1950A	15.00
510-12J	1950B	14.50
510-13J	1950C	13.00

510-14J	1950D	12.00
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\$20 FED. RESERVE

520-2D	1928A #	\$28 33.00
520-3G	1928B	32.00
520-5G	1934	28.50

520-6G	1934A	26.50
520-10J	1950	24.00
520-15J	1963	22.50

\$50 FED. RESERVE

550-1B	1928	77.50
550-3G	1934	65.00
550-5G	1934B	110.00

\$100 FED. RESERVE

500-2J	1928A	135.00
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\$1 FEDERAL RESERVE SETS

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Complete Set, all "Stars," 12 Districts 18.95

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21.95	40.95
	69.75
	1.90

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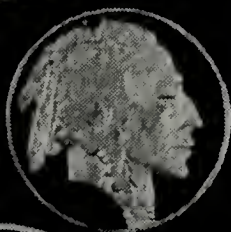
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For Her

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CHARMS \$2.00 & \$3.50

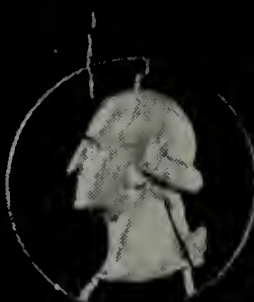
EARRINGS \$9.00



\$12.50



\$15.00



\$7.50



\$7.50

For Him

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CUFF LINKS \$9.00

TIE BARS \$4.50



\$12.50



\$15.00

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